

HISTORY AND SLIDES

Intrigue and Scandal: The Untold Tale of Axel von Fersen and Marie Antoinette

The Intriguing Liaison of Axel von Fersen and Marie Antoinette



Cinema Under Siege: A History and Revival Amidst Digital Chaos

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Chess, Power, and Politics: Imagining a Biden-Putin Strategic Showdown



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HISTORY AND SLIDES

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Axel von Fersen and Marie Antoinette

The development of cinemas in Malmö

Franco – Preussian War

Biden and Putin play chess over political goals

History of Shanghai

Axel von Fersen the Swedish diplomat failed to save his mistress. She was later executed in Paris. Exciting reading.

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A Royal Affair Unveiled

The relationship between Marie Antoinette, the last Queen of France, and the Swedish Count Axel von Fersen has been a subject of historical fascination and speculation. Recent advancements in scanning technology have shed light on their intimate correspondence, revealing the depth of their connection during the tumultuous times of the French Revolution. Von Fersen's efforts to obscure the queen's words in their letters suggest a protective measure, possibly to shield their relationship from the prying eyes of history.

Axel von Fersen: A Man of Many Talents

Axel von Fersen, known in France as Axel de Fersen, was a man of considerable influence and stature. His roles included being a Swedish count, Marshal of the Realm, General of Horse, and a diplomat. His military and diplomatic skills were complemented by his charm, which made him a favorite at the French court and particularly endeared him to Marie Antoinette. Tragically, his life ended in violence when he was lynched by a mob in Stockholm, fueled by rumors of his involvement in the death of a Swedish crown prince.

The Secret Correspondence

Historian Evelyn Farr's research into the love letters exchanged between Marie Antoinette and von Fersen over two decades reveals a passionate and clandestine affair. The letters, which began when the queen was just 18, suggest that their relationship was not only emotional but also physical, with claims that von Fersen may have fathered two of her children. These letters were kept secret, with von Fersen even staying at the Versailles palace incognito.



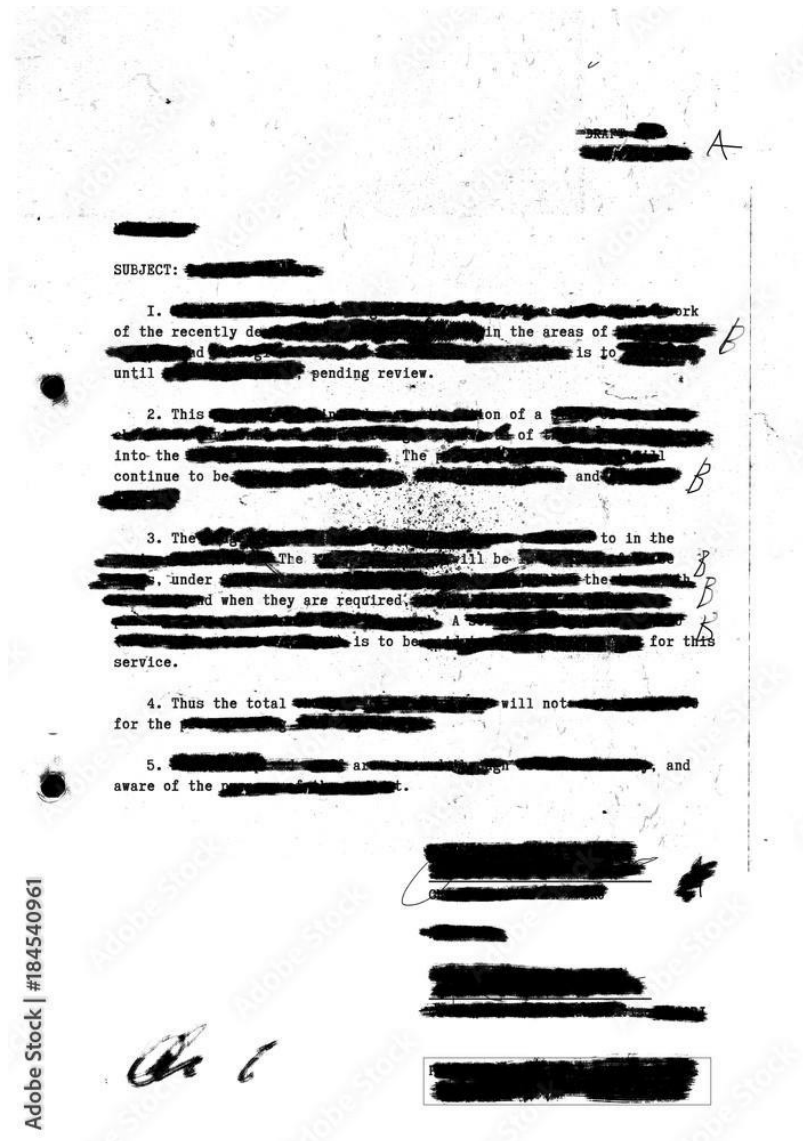
A Scandalous Connection



The bond between Marie Antoinette and von Fersen was more than a mere courtly flirtation. Their connection deepened over the years, with von Fersen becoming a part of the queen's inner circle and trusted confidant. This relationship blossomed amidst the backdrop of political turmoil and personal scandal, including the infamous Diamond Necklace Affair, which damaged the queen's reputation and foreshadowed the financial crisis that would engulf France.

Conspiracy and Escape

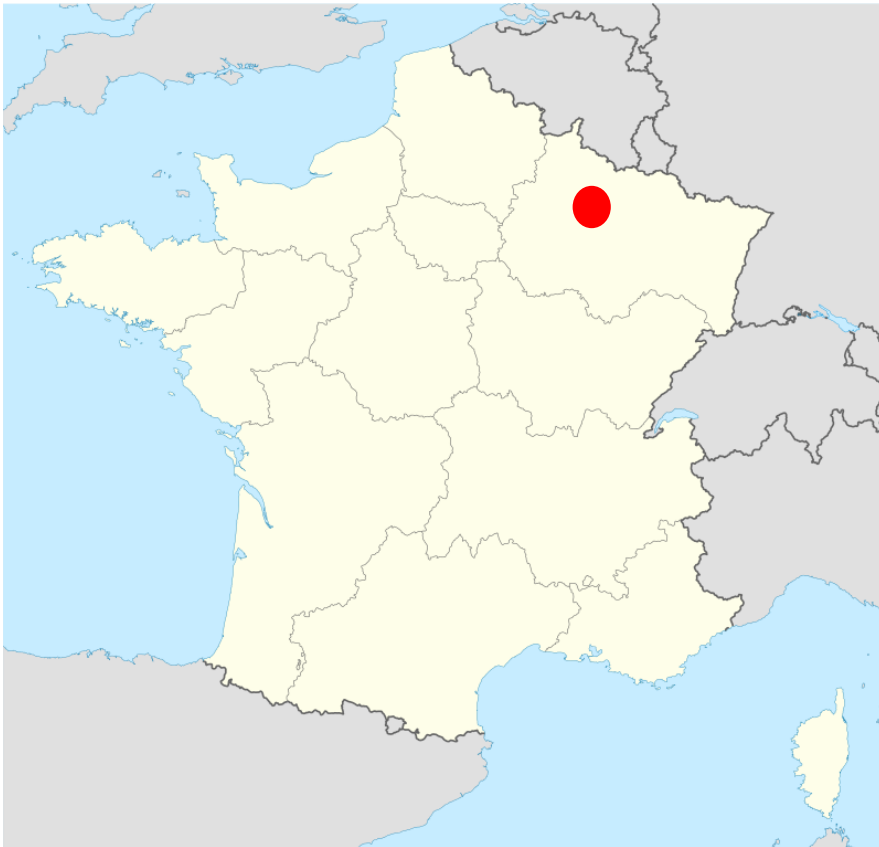
Von Fersen was not only Marie Antoinette's alleged lover but also her savior in times of danger. He played a pivotal role in planning the royal family's escape attempts during the Revolution. Disguised and using subterfuge, von Fersen risked his life to meet with the queen and aid in her family's attempted flight from Paris, demonstrating his unwavering loyalty and commitment to her cause.





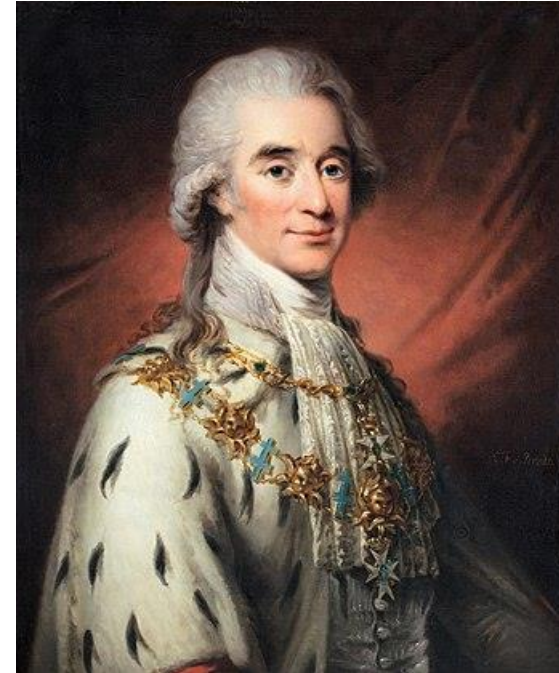
The Flight to Varennes refers to the failed escape attempt of the French royal family during the French Revolution, a famous episode that took place on 20–21 June 1791, when Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette, the king's sister Elisabeth, the royal children and their governess Louise-Elisabeth de Tourzel tried to reach the border with the Austrian Netherlands

The escape was planned by the Swedish count Axel von Fersen the younger. The long-term aim was to bring about a counter-revolution with the help of the royalist troops positioned at the border town of Montmédy. However, they only reached the town of Varennes, where they were arrested after being recognized at the previous stop in Sainte-Menehould.



The escape failed due to a series of delays, misinterpretations, and bad judgment, largely due to the king's indecision, a misjudgment of public loyalty, and belief that democracy was only an idea cherished by radical circles in the capital.

The event became a national trauma, as the public feared a foreign military intervention in the fate of the king, and led to a general awareness that the king, who had until then been a popular monarch, did not support the new democratic ideals. The attempted escape of the royal family is considered a turning point in the development of the French Revolution, as it led to criticism of the French monarchy and members of the royal family as individuals becoming more pronounced and support for a constitutional monarchy declining in favor of a republic, and for the next two years this resulted in that the monarchy was abolished and King Louis XVI and Queen Marie-Antoinette were prosecuted and executed for treason. The king was executed on 21 January 1793 and the queen on 16 October 1793.



Chess, Power, and Politics: Imagining a Biden-Putin Strategic Showdown





The Grand Geopolitical Chess Match

Opening Day: The Great Powers Take Their Places

On the opening day of this grand metaphorical chess match, the world watched with bated breath as two leaders, representing nations of vastly different economic might, sat down at the chessboard. The United States, with an economy nearly ten times larger than Russia's, was embodied by Joe Biden, while Vladimir Putin took his seat as the figurehead of Russia's strategic but economically smaller force.

Chess, Power, and Politics: Imagining a Biden-Putin Strategic Showdown



The Strategic Middle Game

As the game progressed, the pieces on the board began to mirror the international strategies of their respective nations. Biden's moves were calculated and abundant, reflecting the US's superior resources and flexibility. Putin's strategy, while cunning, was constrained, a parallel to Russia's more limited economic position on the global stage.

The Endgame: A Resolute Advance



The Endgame: A Resolute Advance

As the endgame approached, the disparity in strength became increasingly evident. Biden's pieces dominated the board, a testament to the US's overwhelming strategic advantages. With each move, Putin's position grew more precarious, his options dwindling as Biden advanced relentlessly.



Checkmate: The Moment of Surrender







**How could I lose?
I sacrificed so
many peasants**

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The Emergence of Cinema Temples



The 1920s and 30s were a golden age for cinema architecture, with opulent 'cinema temples' being constructed to provide an immersive movie-going experience. In this era, New York saw the rise of the Roxy and the Radio City Music Hall, two of the largest movie theaters in the world, reflecting a global trend of grandiose cinematic palaces.



Sweden's First Public Cinema



Industriutställningens
Sommarteater
vid **Pilstorp.**
Kinématographen från
Paris (levande fotografier) förevisas för
första gången i morgon söndag från
kl. 2—7 e. m.
Entré 50 öre.
Biljetter fås vid ingången.
Denna apparat har under enorm tillslutning
i lång tid varit utställd på Boulevard des Cap-
cines i Paris och förevisas nu här i Malmö för
första gången i Sverige. GAM 12382

Sweden's first public cinema showing took place in a temporary building known as the Summer Theatre during the Nordic Industrial and Crafts Exhibition in Malmö. This event attracted around thirty-five thousand visitors, showcasing short films by German film pioneer Max Skladanowsky, and igniting a national interest in the cinematic arts.

The Rise of 'Living Pictures'

The fascination with 'living pictures' surged in Sweden during the general art and industrial exhibition in Stockholm in 1897. The exhibition featured a special room within the miniature city of Old Stockholm, which can be considered the city's first cinema hall, arranged by Numa Peterson and his son Mortimer.

The Advent of Sound Film

With the establishment of sound film and advancements in technology, the film industry in Sweden began producing high-quality films with strong entertainment value. This led to a boom in audience numbers and the establishment of cinema as a profitable business sector, eventually out-competing traditional theatre



Multiplex Cinemas and Filmstaden



The 1980s marked a new chapter with the opening of the first Filmstaden, the Swedish Film Industry's term for multiplex cinemas. These modern cinema complexes, such as Film City Heron City with its eighteen theaters, became a staple in Sweden's larger cities, offering a diverse range of cinematic experiences.

The Resilience of Swedish Cinemas

Despite the challenges faced by the film industry over the years, Swedish cinemas have shown remarkable resilience. The 1990s did not witness a 'cinema death' nationally, and the industry continued to thrive into the new millennium.

The Digital Vulnerability and a Return to Tradition

In January 2024, a series of hacker attacks from Russia targeted the ticketing systems of cinemas, leading to a temporary return to traditional paper tickets. This incident highlighted the fragility of digital systems and the sometimes overlooked reliability of physical documentation in the face of cyber threats.

Digital Deception: A Glimpse into State-Sponsored Cyber Threats and Their Impact



Year	Event	Significance
1896	First film screenings in Malmö	Introduction of cinema to Sweden
1920s-30s	Construction of cinema temples	Golden age of cinema architecture
1897	First cinema hall in Stockholm	Rise of 'living pictures' and public interest
1980s	Opening of first Filmstaden	Multiplex cinemas revolutionize film viewing
2024	Hacker attacks on ticket systems	Digital vulnerability leads to a return to paper tickets



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20 years



20 years

Trump is charged with 34 crimes. Prosecutor Alvin Bragg says Trump committed a series of "serious crimes." Donald Trump is indicted on suspicion of 34 cases of accounting crimes for the purpose of concealing payments to three people for several hundreds of thousands of dollars.



The punishment scale for the crimes Donald Trump is suspected of can lead to up to **20 years in prison**

Trump faces a long prison sentence if convicted. The maximum sentence for several of the crimes is 20 years. Background: The indictment against Trump Donald Trump and his associate Walt Nauta are indicted on 37 counts. Trump is suspected of taking hundreds of classified documents to his Mar-a-Lago residence in Florida when he left the White House in January 2021. He is also accused of showing classified documents to outsiders.

The ex-president is also charged with obstruction of justice - that he allegedly refused to hand over documents to the investigation and also hid them, as well as lied to the investigators.

Trump has also been charged with trying to rig the 2020 presidential election. That charge was made public on August 1, 2023.

Trump is also being investigated, among other things, for the suspicion that he tried to manipulate the election results in the southern state of Georgia in 2020.



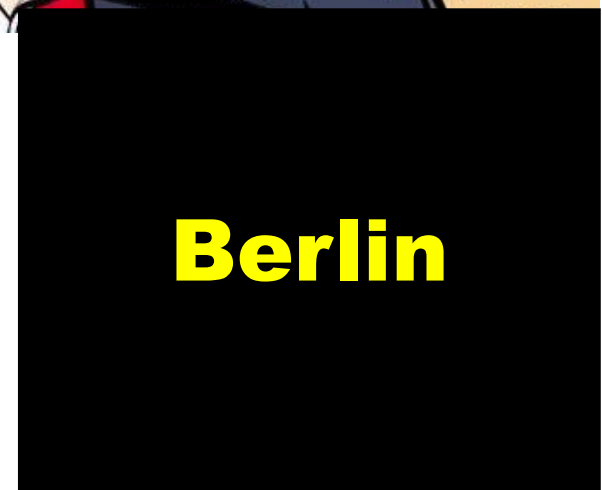
Trump voters



Washington



Berlin





Franco-Prussian War

Text Wikipedia

Franco-Prussian War

Bismarck's Bait: Unraveling France's Fall in the Franco-Prussian War

The Franco-Prussian War, also known as the Franco-German War, was a pivotal conflict that reshaped the political landscape of Europe. It was fought between the Second French Empire and the North German Confederation under Prussian leadership from July 19, 1870, to January 28, 1871. The war stemmed from France's desire to maintain its supremacy in Europe, which was threatened by Prussia's growing power, especially after Prussia's victory against Austria in 1866.

Bismarck's Role and the Southern German States

A key figure in the war was Prussian Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, whose actions were instrumental in its outbreak. Some historians argue that Bismarck intentionally goaded France into war to facilitate the unification of southern German states with the North German Confederation. Others suggest that while Bismarck did not create the conflict, he adeptly used the unfolding events to Germany's advantage. Regardless of the differing views, there is consensus that Bismarck saw and seized the opportunity to strengthen German unity.

Franco-Prussian War

Catalyst of the War

The immediate spark for the war was the candidacy of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen for the Spanish throne, which France perceived as a threat. This concern led to diplomatic efforts to prevent the prince's ascension. Bismarck's release of the Ems Telegram, a document that insulted the French, was the final provocation that pushed France to declare war on Prussia.



The Franco-Prussian War concluded with a decisive German victory, marking the end of French dominance in Europe. The war's outcome led to the proclamation of the German Empire in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, a symbolic act that humiliated France and altered the European balance of power.

Franco-Prussian War



SCHOOL HISTORY

Franco-Prussian War



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Historical context of the Franco-Prussian War
- The two armies involved in the Franco-Prussian War
- The causes and effects of the Franco-Prussian War
- Key events that occurred during the Franco-Prussian War



FACT FILE

The Franco-Prussian war or Franco-German war was a conflict between the Second French Empire and later the Third French Republic, and the German states of the North German Confederation led by the Kingdom of Prussia.

- It lasted from 19 July 1870 to 28 January 1871 and it was caused by Prussian ambitions to extend German unification and French fears of the shift in the European balance of power, if the Prussians were to succeed.

Let's find out more about the Franco-Prussian War!

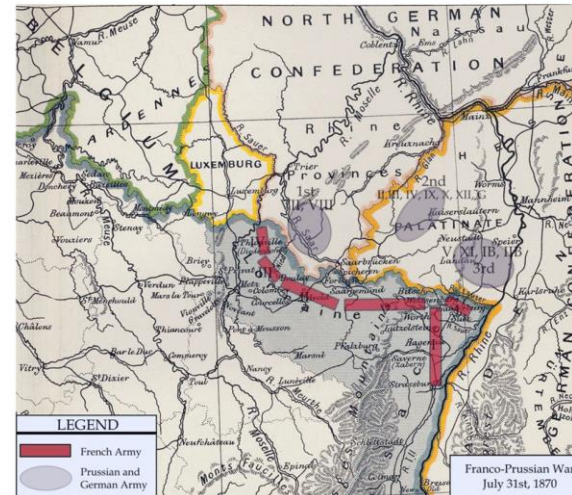


Franco-Prussian War: the wounded French from the Sedan Campa

- The Treaty of Frankfurt signed on 10 May 1871 gave Germany most of Alsace and some parts of Lorraine, which became the Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine.



Franco-Prussian War



Map of the German and French armies near the common border on 31 July 1870

Franco-Prussian War



Europe after the Franco-Prussian War and the unification of Germany

Franco-Prussian War

Franco-Prussian War

The "Rifle Battalion 9 from Lauenburg" at Gravelotte



Franco-Prussian War



Surrender of Metz

Franco-Prussian War



The Cemetery of St. Privat by Alphonse-Marie-Adolphe de Neuville (1881)

Franco-Prussian War



Franco-Prussian War

The Franco-Prussian War or Franco-German War, often referred to in France as the War of 1870, was a conflict between the Second French Empire and the North German Confederation led by the Kingdom of Prussia. Lasting from 19 July 1870 to 28 January 1871, the conflict was caused primarily by France's determination to reassert its dominant position in continental Europe, which appeared in question following the decisive Prussian victory over Austria in 1866. According to some historians, Prussian chancellor Otto von Bismarck deliberately provoked the French into declaring war on Prussia in order to induce four independent southern German states—Baden, Württemberg, Bavaria and Hesse-Darmstadt—to join the North German Confederation; other historians contend that Bismarck exploited the circumstances as they unfolded. All agree that Bismarck recognized the potential for new German alliances, given the situation as a whole.

France mobilised its army on 15 July 1870, leading the North German Confederation to respond with its own mobilisation later that day. On 16 July 1870, the French parliament voted to declare war on Prussia; France invaded German territory on 2 August. The German coalition mobilised its troops much more effectively than the French and invaded northeastern France on 4 August. German forces were superior in numbers, training, and leadership and made more effective use of modern technology, particularly railways and artillery.

A series of hard fought Prussian and German victories in eastern France, culminating in the Siege of Metz and the Battle of Sedan, resulted in the capture of the French Emperor Napoleon III and the decisive defeat of the army of the Second Empire; a Government of National Defense was formed in Paris on 4 September and continued the war for another five months. German forces fought and defeated new French armies in northern France, then besieged Paris for over four months before it fell on 28 January 1871, effectively ending the war.

Franco-Prussian War

In the final days of the war, with German victory all but assured, the German states proclaimed their union as the German Empire under the Prussian king Wilhelm I and Chancellor Bismarck. With the notable exceptions of Austria and German Switzerland, the vast majority of German-speakers were united under a nation-state for the first time. Following an armistice with France, the Treaty of Frankfurt was signed on 10 May 1871, giving Germany billions of francs in war indemnity, as well as most of Alsace and parts of Lorraine, which became the Imperial Territory of Alsace-Lorraine (Reichsland Elsaß-Lothringen).

The war had a lasting impact on Europe. By hastening German unification, the war significantly altered the balance of power on the continent, with the new German state supplanting France as the dominant European land power. Bismarck maintained great authority in international affairs for two decades, developing a reputation for Realpolitik that raised Germany's global stature and influence. In France, it brought a final end to imperial rule and began the first lasting republican government. Resentment over the French government's handling of the war and its aftermath triggered the Paris Commune, a revolutionary uprising which seized and held power for two months before its bloody suppression; the event would influence the politics and policies of the Third Republic.

The causes of the Franco-Prussian War are rooted in the events surrounding the gradual march toward the unification of the German states under Otto von Bismarck. France had gained the status of being the dominant power of continental Europe as a result of the Franco-Austrian War of 1859. During the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, the Empress Eugénie, Foreign Minister Drouyn de Lhuys and War Minister Jacques Louis Randon were concerned that the power of Prussia might overtake that of France.

Franco-Prussian War

They unsuccessfully urged Napoleon to mass troops at France's eastern borders while the bulk of the Prussian armies were still engaged in Bohemia as a warning that no territorial changes could be effected in Germany without consulting France. As a result of Prussia's annexation of several German states which had sided with Austria during the war and the formation of the North German Confederation under Prussia's aegis, French public opinion stiffened and now demanded more firmness as well as territorial compensations. As a result, Napoleon demanded from Prussia a return to the French borders of 1814, with the annexation of Luxembourg, most of Saarland, and the Bavarian Palatinate. Bismarck flatly refused what he disdainfully termed France's *politique des pourboires* ("tipping policy"). He then communicated Napoleon's written territorial demands to Bavaria and the other southern German states of Württemberg, Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt, which hastened the conclusion of defensive military alliances with these states. France had been strongly opposed to any further alliance of German states, which would have threatened French continental dominance.

The only result of French policy was the consent of Prussia to nominal independence for Saxony, Bavaria, Wurttemberg, Baden, and Hestia-Darmstadt; this was a small victory, and one without appeal to a French public which wanted territory and a French army which wanted revenge. The situation did not suit either France, which unexpectedly found itself next to the militarily powerful Prussian-led North German Confederation, or Prussia, whose foremost objective was to complete the process of uniting the German states under its control. Thus, war between the two powers since 1866 was only a matter of time.

In Prussia, some officials considered a war against France both inevitable and necessary to arouse German nationalism in those states that would allow the unification of a great German empire.

Franco-Prussian War

This aim was epitomized by Prussian Chancellor Otto von Bismarck's later statement: "I did not doubt that a Franco-German war must take place before the construction of a United Germany could be realised. Bismarck also knew that France should be the aggressor in the conflict to bring the four southern German states to side with Prussia, hence giving Germans numerical superiority. He was convinced that France would not find any allies in her war against Germany for the simple reason that "France, the victor, would be a danger to everybody—Prussia to nobody," and he added, "That is our strong point." Many Germans also viewed the French as the traditional destabilizer of Europe, and sought to weaken France to prevent further breaches of the peace.

The immediate cause of the war was the candidacy of Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen to the throne of Spain. France feared an encirclement resulting from an alliance between Prussia and Spain. The Hohenzollern prince's candidacy was withdrawn under French diplomatic pressure, but Otto von Bismarck goaded the French into declaring war by releasing an altered summary of the Ems Dispatch, a telegram sent by William I rejecting French demands that Prussia never again support a Hohenzollern candidacy. Bismarck's summary, as mistranslated by the French press Havas, made it sound as if the king had treated the French envoy in a demeaning fashion, which inflamed public opinion in France.

French historians François Roth and Pierre Milza argue that Napoleon III was pressured by a bellicose press and public opinion and thus sought war in response to France's diplomatic failures to obtain any territorial gains following the Austro-Prussian War.[Napoleon III believed he would win a conflict with Prussia.

Franco-Prussian War

The Ems telegram of 13 July 1870 had exactly the effect on French public opinion that Bismarck had intended. "This text produced the effect of a red flag on the Gallic bull", Bismarck later wrote. Gramont, the French foreign minister, declared that he felt "he had just received a slap". The leader of the monarchists in Parliament, Adolphe Thiers, spoke for moderation, arguing that France had won the diplomatic battle and there was no reason for war, but he was drowned out by cries that he was a traitor and a Prussian. Napoleon's new prime minister, Emile Ollivier, declared that France had done all that it could humanly and honorably do to prevent the war, and that he accepted the responsibility "with a light heart". A crowd of 15,000–20,000 people, carrying flags and patriotic banners, marched through the streets of Paris, demanding war. French mobilization was ordered early on 15 July. Upon receiving news of the French mobilization, the North German Confederation mobilized on the night of 15–16 July, while Bavaria and Baden did likewise on 16 July and Württemberg on 17 July. On 19 July 1870, the French sent a declaration of war to the Prussian government. The southern German states immediately sided with Prussia.

Napoleonic France had no documented alliance with other powers and entered the war virtually without allies. The calculation was for a victorious offensive, which, as the French Foreign Minister Gramont stated, was "the only way for France to lure the wary Austrians, Italians and Danes into the French alliance. The involvement of Russia on the side of France was not considered by her at all, since Russia made the lifting of restrictions on its naval construction on the Black Sea imposed on Russia by the Treaty of Paris following the Crimean War a precondition for the union. But Imperial France was not ready to do this. "Bonaparte did not dare to encroach on the Paris Treaty: the worse things turned out in the present, the more precious the heritage of the past became"

Franco-Prussian War



The French Army consisted in peacetime of approximately 426,000 soldiers, some of them regulars, others conscripts who until March 1869 were selected by ballot and served for the comparatively long period of seven years. Some of them were veterans of previous French campaigns in the Crimean War, Algeria, the Franco-Austrian War in Italy, and in the Mexican campaign. However, following the "Seven Weeks War" between Prussia and Austria four years earlier, it had been calculated that, with commitments in Algeria and elsewhere, the French Army could field only 288,000 men to face the Prussian Army, when potentially 1,000,000 would be required.

Franco-Prussian War

Under Marshal Adolphe Niel, urgent reforms were made. Universal conscription and a shorter period of service gave increased numbers of reservists, who would swell the army to a planned strength of 800,000 on mobilisation. Those who for any reason were not conscripted were to be enrolled in the Garde Mobile, a militia with a nominal strength of 400,000. However, the Franco-Prussian War broke out before these reforms could be completely implemented. The mobilisation of reservists was chaotic and resulted in large numbers of stragglers, while the Garde Mobile were generally untrained and often mutinous. French infantry were equipped with the breech-loading Chassepot rifle, one of the most modern mass-produced firearms in the world at the time, with 1,037,555 available in French inventories. With a rubber ring seal and a smaller bullet, the Chassepot had a maximum effective range of some 1,500 metres (4,900 ft) with a short reloading time. French tactics emphasised the defensive use of the Chassepot rifle in trench-warfare style fighting—the so-called *feu de bataillon*.

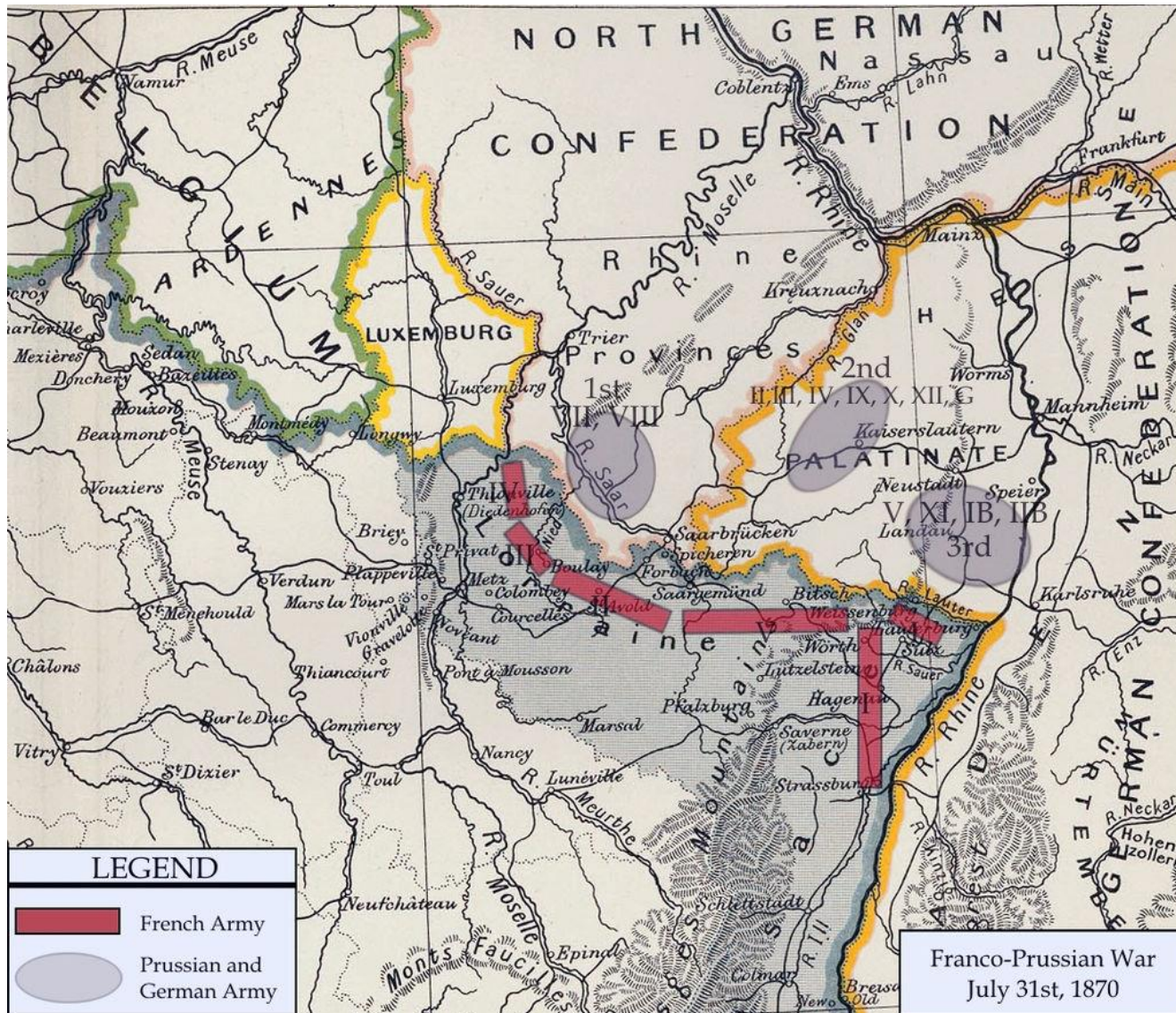


Franco-Prussian War

The German army comprised that of the North German Confederation led by the Kingdom of Prussia, and the South German states drawn in under the secret clause of the preliminary peace of Nikolsburg, 26 July 1866, and formalised in the Treaty of Prague, 23 August 1866. Recruitment and organisation of the various armies were almost identical, and based on the concept of conscripting annual classes of men who then served in the regular regiments for a fixed term before being moved to the reserves. This process gave a theoretical peace time strength of 382,000 and a wartime strength of about 1,189,000.

German tactics emphasised encirclement battles like Cannae and using artillery offensively whenever possible. Rather than advancing in a column or line formation, Prussian infantry moved in small groups that were harder to target by artillery or French defensive fire. The sheer number of soldiers available made encirclement en masse and destruction of French formations relatively easy. The army was equipped with the Dreyse needle gun renowned for its use at the Battle of Königgrätz, which was by this time showing the age of its 25-year-old design. The rifle had a range of only 600 m (2,000 ft) and lacked the rubber breech seal that permitted aimed shots. The deficiencies of the needle gun were more than compensated for by the famous Krupp 6-pounder (6 kg despite the gun being called a 6-pounder, the rifling technology enabled guns to fire twice the weight of projectiles in the same calibre) steel breech-loading cannons being issued to Prussian artillery batteries. Firing a contact-detonated shell, the Krupp gun had a longer range and a higher rate of fire than the French bronze muzzle loading cannon, which relied on time fuses. The Prussian army was controlled by the General Staff, under General Helmuth von Moltke. The Prussian army was unique in Europe for having the only such organisation in existence, whose purpose in peacetime was to prepare the overall war strategy, and in wartime to direct operational movement and organise logistics and communications. Moltke embraced new technology, particularly the railroad and telegraph, to coordinate and accelerate mobilisation of large forces.

Franco-Prussian War



Map of the German and French armies near the common border on 31 July 1870

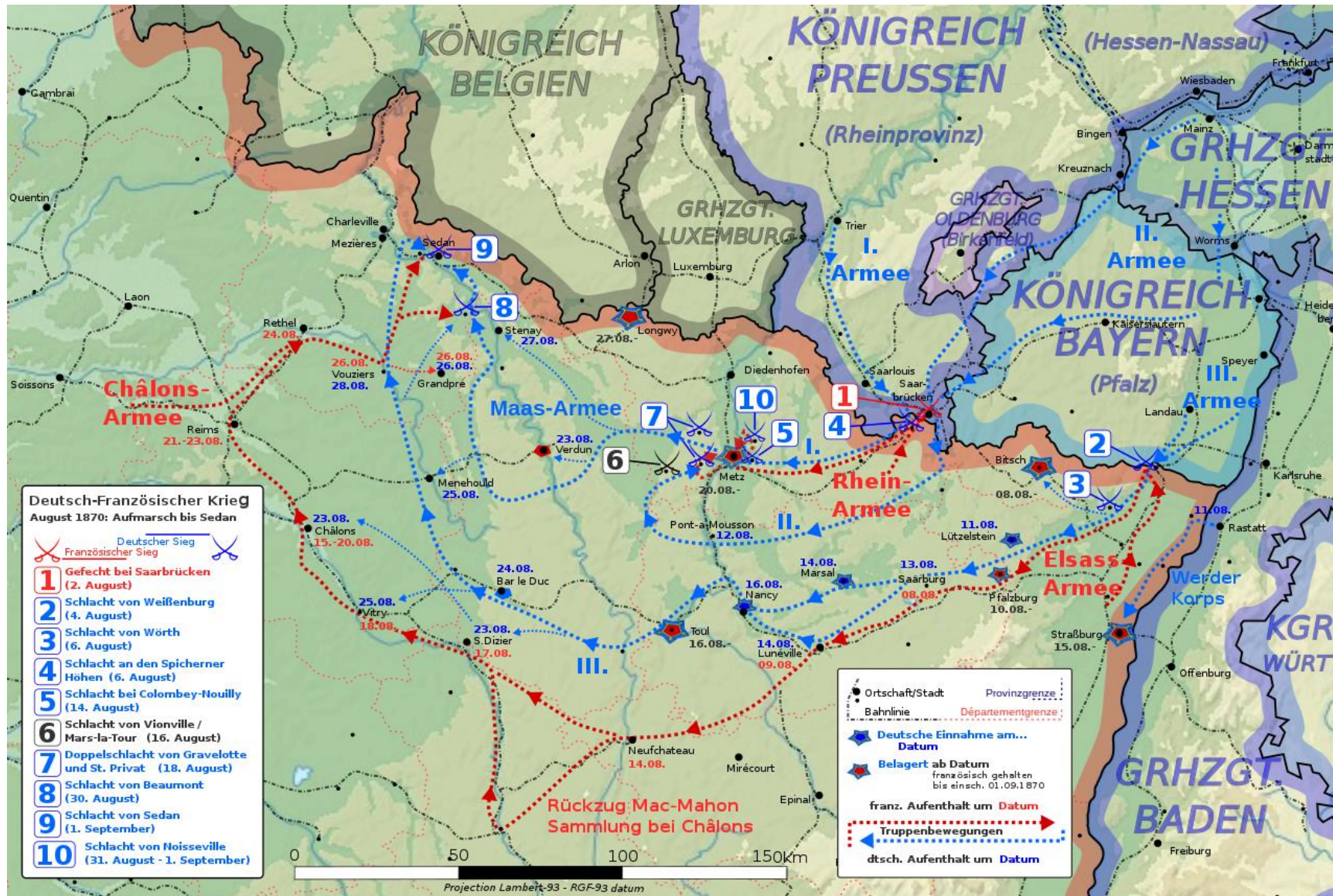
Franco-Prussian War

On 28 July 1870 Napoleon III left Paris for Metz and assumed command of the newly titled Army of the Rhine, some 202,448 strong and expected to grow as the French mobilization progressed. Marshal MacMahon took command of I Corps (4 infantry divisions) near Wissembourg, Marshal François Canrobert brought VI Corps (4 infantry divisions) to Châlons-sur-Marne in northern France as a reserve and to guard against a Prussian advance through Belgium

A pre-war plan laid down by the late Marshal Niel called for a strong French offensive from Thionville towards Trier and into the Prussian Rhineland. This plan was discarded in favour of a defensive plan by Generals Charles Frossard and Bartélemy Lebrun, which called for the Army of the Rhine to remain in a defensive posture near the German border and repel any Prussian offensive. As Austria, along with Bavaria, Württemberg, and Baden were expected to join in a revenge war against Prussia, I Corps would invade the Bavarian Palatinate and proceed to "free" the four South German states in concert with Austro-Hungarian forces. VI Corps would reinforce either army as needed.

Unfortunately for Frossard's plan, the Prussian army mobilised far more rapidly than expected. The Austro-Hungarians, still reeling after their defeat by Prussia in the Austro-Prussian War, were treading carefully before stating that they would only side with France if the south Germans viewed the French positively. This did not materialize as the four South German states had come to Prussia's aid and were mobilizing their armies against France

Franco-Prussian War



Course of the first phase of the war up to the Battle of Sedan on 1 September 1870

Franco-Prussian War

The "Rifle Battalion 9 from Lauenburg" at Gravelotte



Franco-Prussian War



The Cemetery of St. Privat by Alphonse-Marie-Adolphe de Neuville (1881)

Franco-Prussian War



Surrender of Metz

Franco-Prussian War



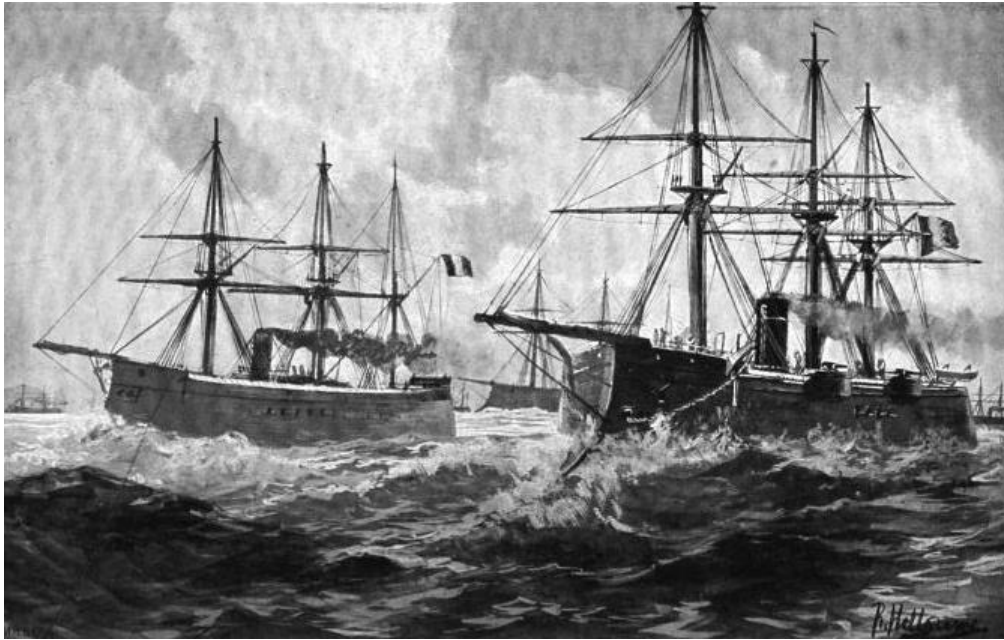
Franco-Prussian War

Franco-Prussian War



The French Army of the East is disarmed at the Swiss border in the monumental 1881 depiction.

Franco-Prussian War



When the war began, the French government ordered a blockade of the North German coasts, which the small North German Federal Navy with only five ironclads and various minor vessels could do little to oppose. For most of the war, the three largest German ironclads were out of service with engine troubles; only the turret ship SMS Arminius was available to conduct operations. By the time engine repairs had been completed, the French fleet had already departed. The blockade proved only partially successful due to crucial oversights by the planners in Paris. Reservists that were supposed to be at the ready in case of war, were working in the Newfoundland fisheries or in Scotland. Only part of the 470-ship French Navy put to sea on 24 July. Before long, the French navy ran short of coal, needing 200 short tons (180 t) per day and having a bunker capacity in the fleet of only 250 short tons (230 t).



Franco-Prussian War



The quick German victory over the French stunned neutral observers, many of whom had expected a French victory and most of whom had expected a long war. The strategic advantages which the Germans had were not appreciated outside Germany until after hostilities had ceased. Other countries quickly discerned the advantages given to the Germans by their military system, and adopted many of their innovations, particularly the general staff, universal conscription, and highly detailed mobilization system

Franco-Prussian War



**Europe after the
Franco-Prussian War
and the unification of
Germany**

Franco-Prussian War



**Proclamation of the
German Empire,
painted
by Anton von Werner**

Franco-Prussian War

The defeat in the Franco-Prussian War led to the birth of Revanchism (literally, "revenge-ism") in France, characterised by a deep sense of bitterness, hatred and demand for revenge against Germany. This was particularly manifested in loose talk of another war with Germany in order to reclaim Alsace and Lorraine. It also led to the development of nationalist ideologies emphasising "the ideal of the guarded, self-referential nation schooled in the imperative of war", an ideology epitomised by figures such as General Georges Ernest Boulanger in the 1880s. Paintings that emphasized the humiliation of the defeat became in high demand, such as those by Alphonse de Neuville. Revanchism was not a major cause of war in 1914 because it faded after 1880. J.F.V. Keiger says, "By the 1880s Franco-German relations were relatively good. The French public had very little interest in foreign affairs and elite French opinion was strongly opposed to war with its more powerful neighbor. The elites were now calm and considered it a minor issue. The Alsace-Lorraine issue remained a minor theme after 1880, and Republicans and Socialists systematically downplayed the issue. Return did not become a French war aim until after World War I began.



H I S T O R Y of Shanghai

The Evolution of Shanghai: From Fishing Village to Global Metropolis

Ancient Origins and Early Development

The area now known as Shanghai has been inhabited since ancient times, with evidence of settlements dating back to 5000 B.C. During the Spring and Autumn period, it was part of the Kingdom of Wu, later conquered by the Kingdoms of Yue and Chu. The Warring States period saw Shanghai under the rule of Lord Chunshen, who ordered the excavation of the Huangpu River, which would later play a crucial role in the city's development as a port.

Rise as a Trading Port

Shanghai's transformation into a significant trading hub began during the Song Dynasty, with the establishment of a customs office by the 11th century. The city's advantageous location as a deepwater port was recognized, and it became a focal point for coastal and inland shipping. By the late Ming Dynasty, Shanghai had evolved into a major center for cotton and textiles, setting the stage for its future growth.



Colonial Era and Foreign Influence

The 19th century marked a pivotal turn in Shanghai's history when it was opened to European trade following the First Opium War. The establishment of the Shanghai International Settlement and the French Concession turned the city into a melting pot of foreign cultures, architecture, and societies. This period saw an influx of international influences, which shaped the city's character and left a lasting impact on its heritage.

Modern Economic Powerhouse

Since the early 1990s, Shanghai has experienced a meteoric rise, becoming one of Asia's major financial centers. The city's port, known for its bustling activity, has been recognized as the world's busiest container port. This remarkable growth mirrors the broader economic reforms and development of modern China.



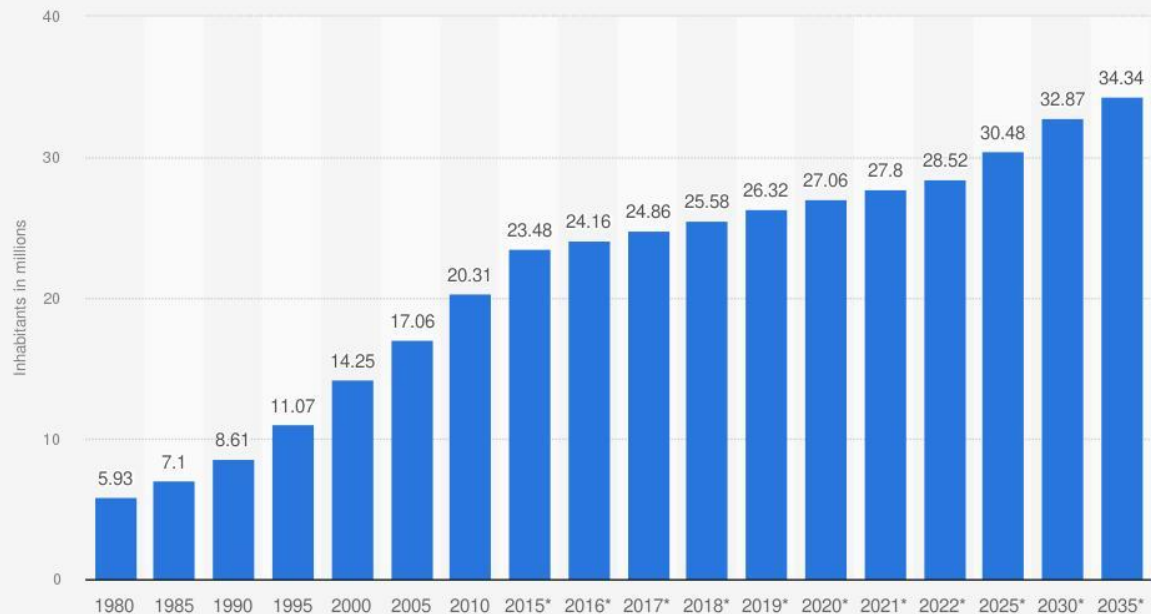


5,500

The Yangzi River completes its journey to the Pacific at Shanghai, underscoring the city's strategic geographical importance.

Cultural Tapestry and Urban Growth

Estimated population of the urban area of Shanghai, China from 1980 to 2035 (in millions)



Source
UN DESA
© Statista 2023

Additional Information:
China; 1980 to 2010





H I S T O R Y of Shanghai

Period

Event

Ancient Times

Settlements dating back to 5000 B.C.

Spring and Autumn Period

Part of Kingdom of Wu

Warring States Period

Excavation of Huangpu River

Song Dynasty

Customs office established

Late Ming Dynasty

Major cotton and textile center

19th Century

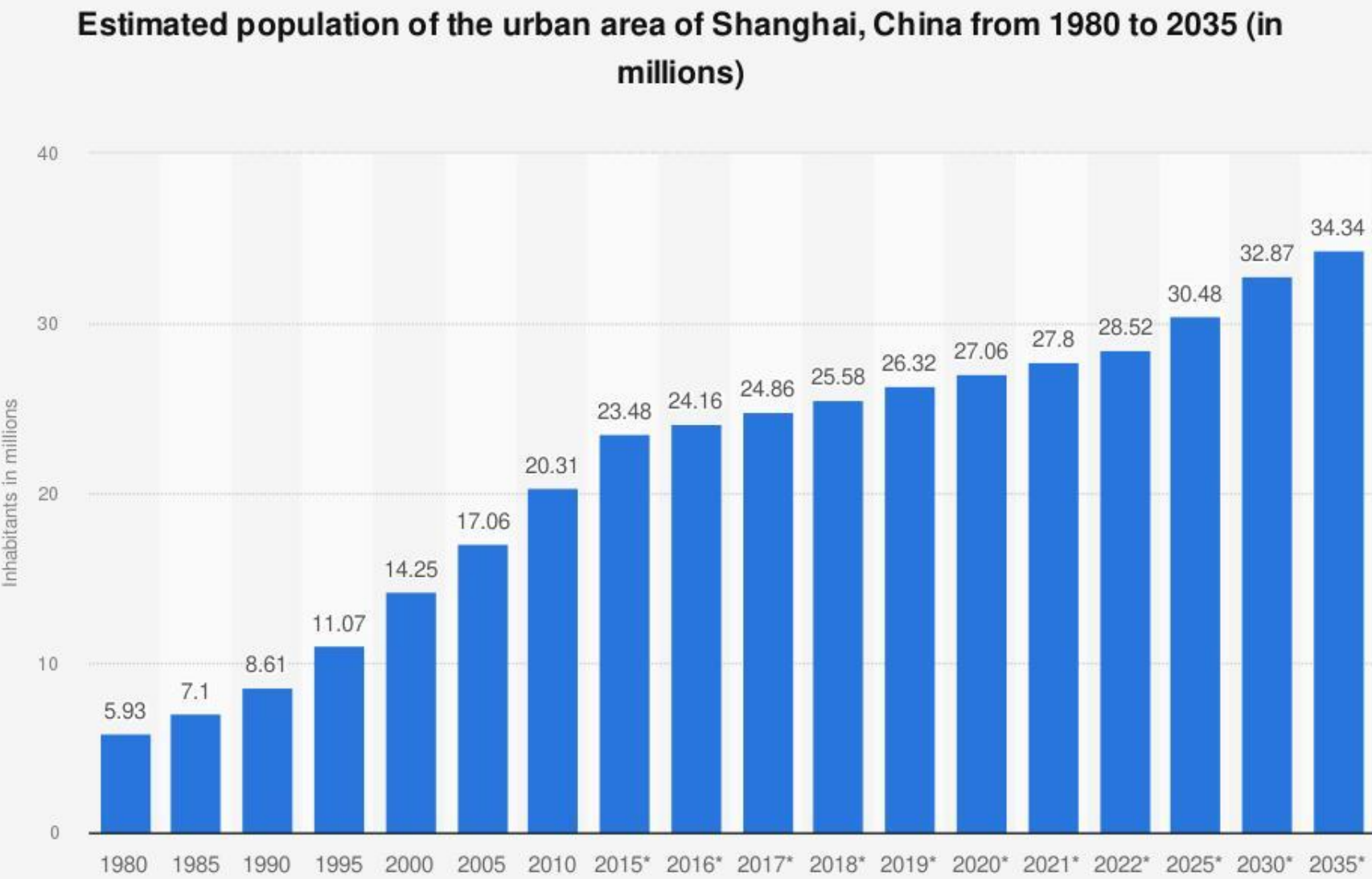
Opened to European trade

Early 1990s

Economic reforms; financial center

Time Line

The chart presents the estimated population growth of the urban area of Shanghai, China from 1980 to 2035. Starting at 5.93 million in 1980, the population exhibits a consistent upward trend, reaching 11.07 million in 1995, 20.31 million in 2010, and 27.06 million in 2020. Projections for future years show a continued increase, with an estimated population of 30.48 million in 2025, 32.87 million in 2030, and 34.34 million in 2035.



Source
UN DESA
© Statista 2023

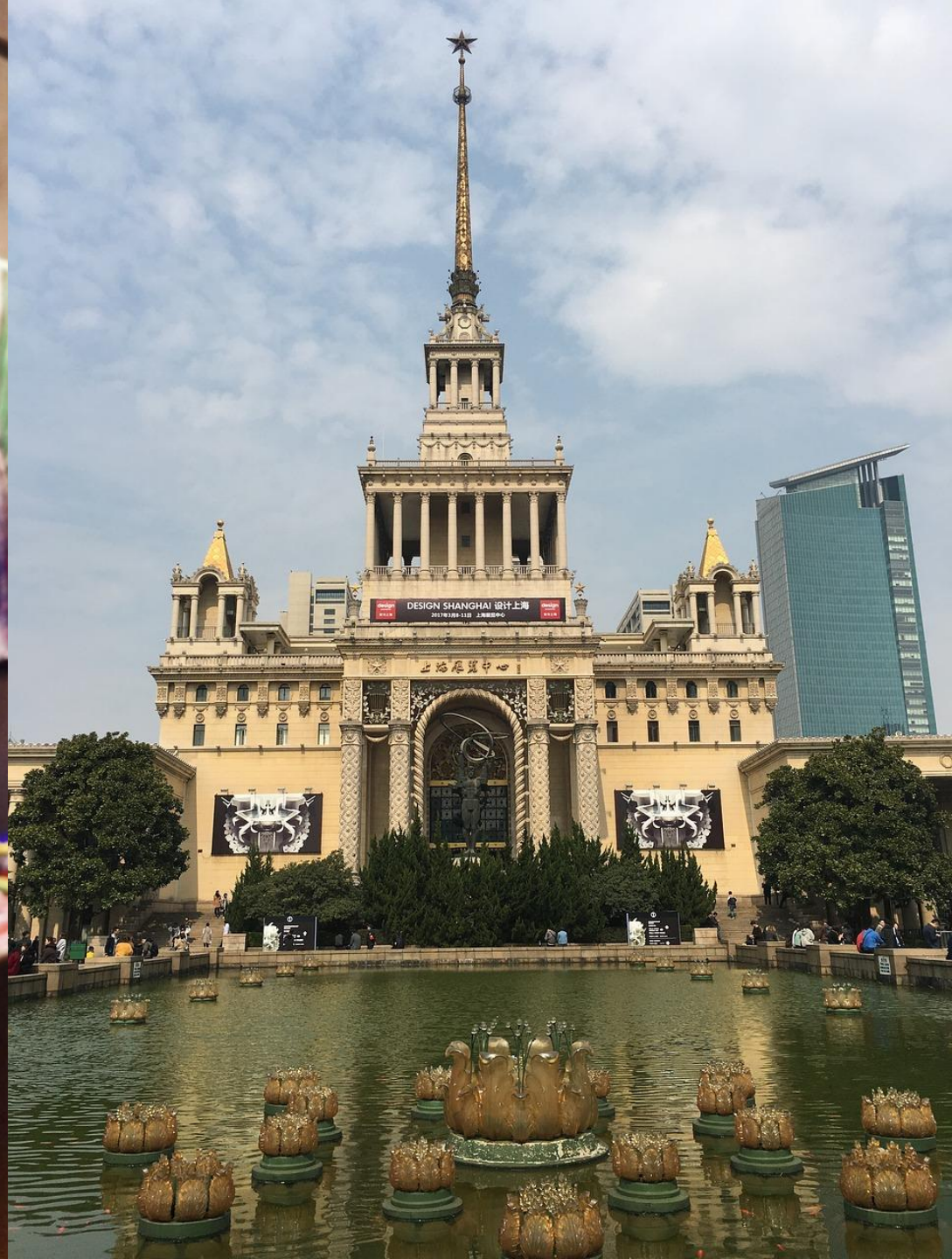
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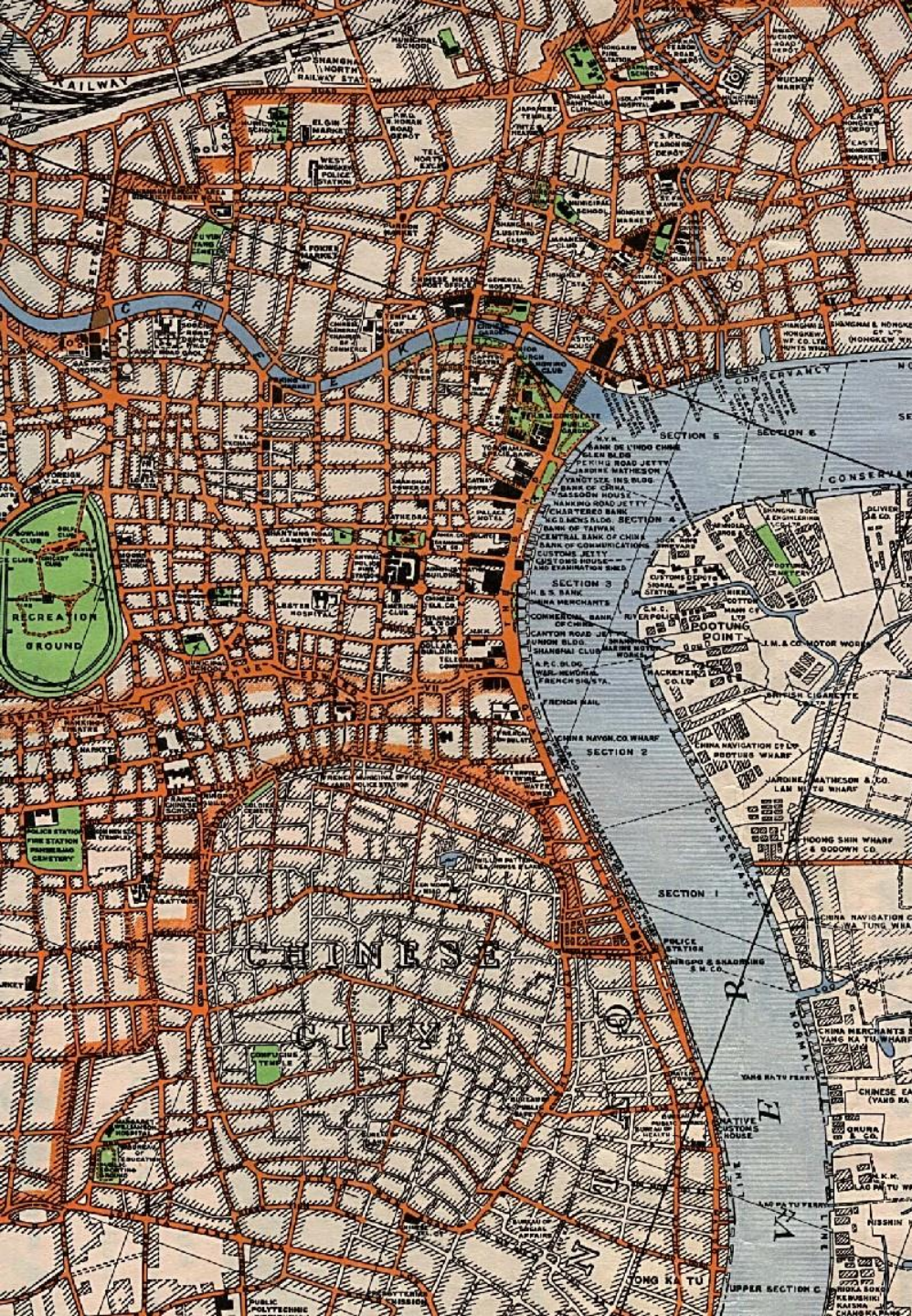




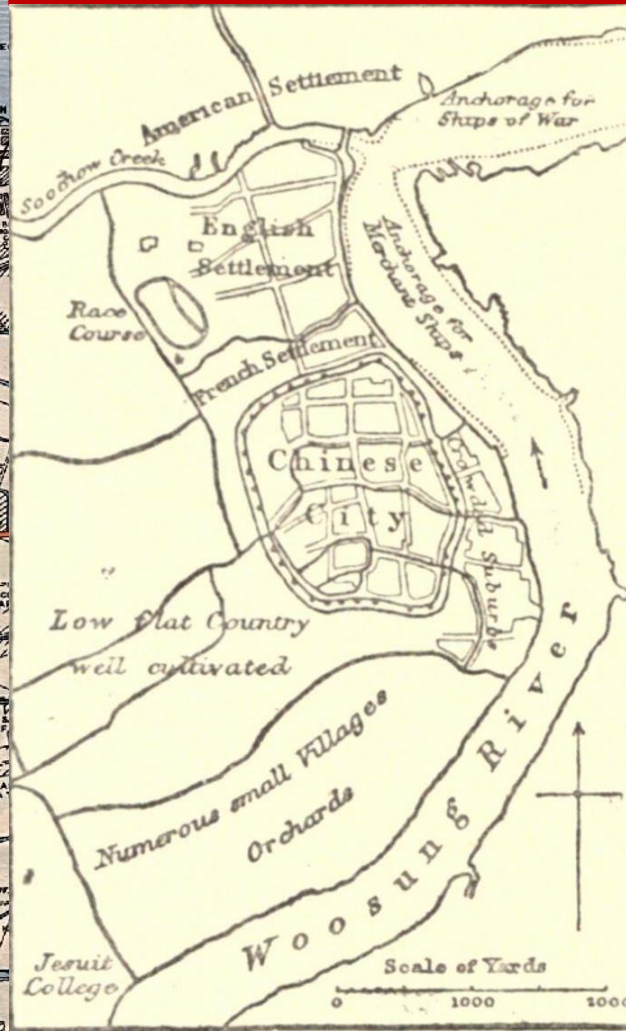


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1933 map of Shanghai



Shanghai, c. 1886

The history of Shanghai spans over a thousand years and closely parallels the development of modern China. Originally a small agricultural village, Shanghai developed during the late Qing dynasty (1644–1912) as one of China's principal trading ports. Although nominally part of China, in practice foreign diplomats controlled the city under the policy of extraterritoriality. Since the economic reforms of the early 1990s the city has burgeoned to become one of Asia's major financial centers and the world's busiest container port.

Early Era

5th-7th c. CE - Fishing village develops where Suzhou Creek enters the Huangpu River.

751 CE - Area becomes part of Huating county.

976 CE - Longhua Temple rebuilt.

12th c. - Market town develops.

1216 - Jing'an Temple built.

1292 - Town becomes county seat.

1294 - Wen Miao (temple) active.

1554 - City walls constructed.

1732 - Customs office relocated to Shanghai from Songjiang.

1780 - Yu Garden opens.

1789 - Guyi Garden becomes communal property.

History of Shanghai Early Era

Around 6000 BCE, only the western part of the Shanghai region encompassing today's Qingpu, Songjiang and Jinshan districts were dry land formed by lacustrine silting from ancient Lake Tai. The modern Jiading, Minhang and Fengxian districts emerged around 1,000 BC while the downtown area remained underwater.

The earliest Neolithic settlements known in this area date to the Majiabang culture (5000–3300 BCE). This was overlapped by the Songze culture between around 3800–3300 BCE. In the lower stratum of the Songze excavation site in the modern-day Qingpu District, archaeologists found the prone skeleton of one of the Shanghai's earliest inhabitants—a 25-30-year-old male with an almost complete skull dated to the Majiabang era.

By the 4th and 5th centuries CE, during the Eastern Jin dynasty (317–420), a thriving fishing industry had developed along the Song River—now known as Suzhou Creek,—a tributary of the Huangpu River. Located some 12 miles (19 km) from the Yangtze River estuary, China's largest inland waterway, the creek was at that time known as the Hu (滬), a character that represents a fishing trap, of which there were a number in the river. The character Hu is still used as an abbreviation to denote the city, for example on car license plates. Qinglong Zhen (青龙镇; 莘龍鎮), the "Garrison of the Green Dragon", the first garrison in this area, was founded in 746 during the Tang dynasty (618–907) in what is now the Qingpu District of Shanghai. Five years later, Huating Zhèn (花亭镇; 華亭镇; 'Garrison of the Flower Temple') followed, demonstrating the growth of the region and its increasing political and geographical importance.

History of Shanghai

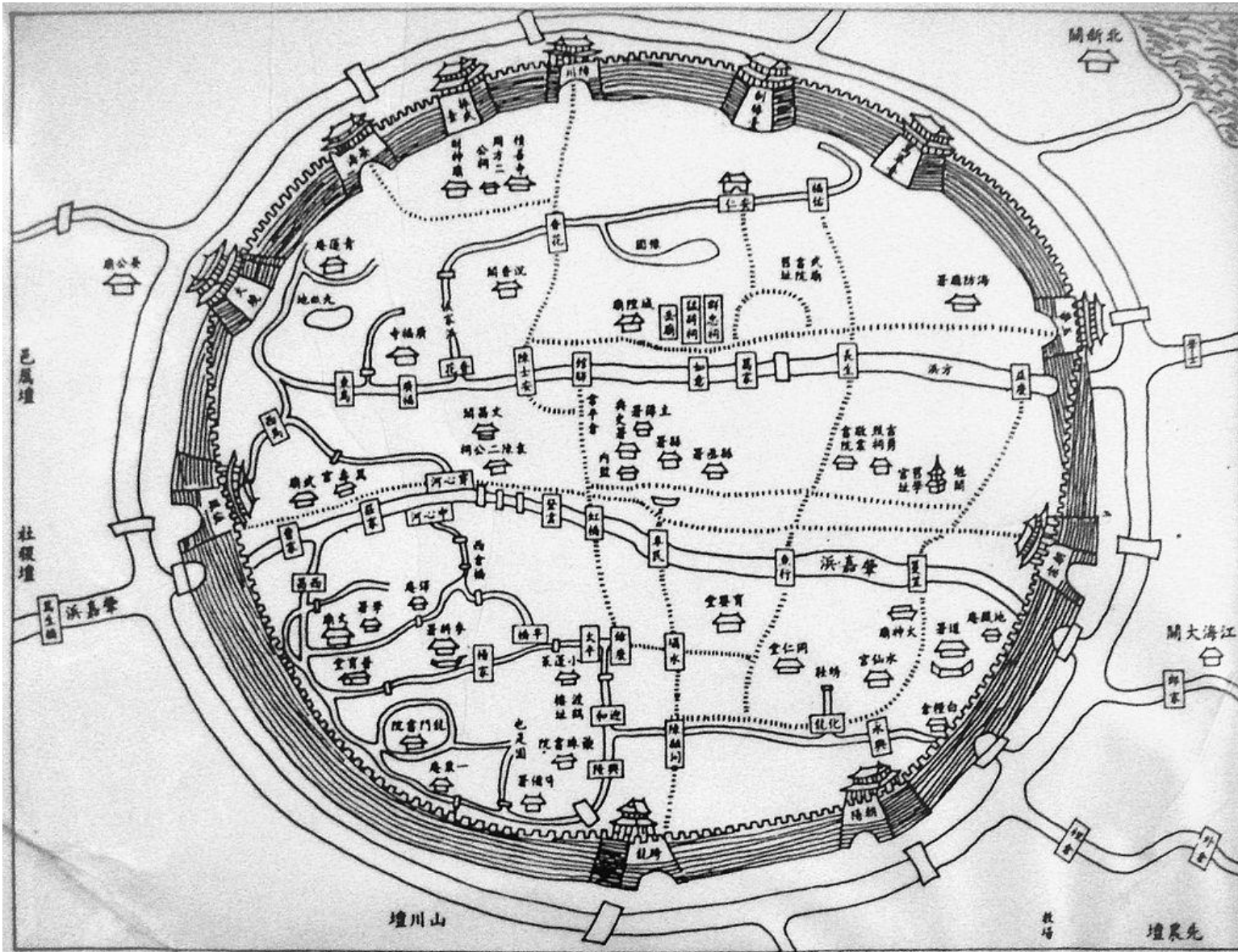


In 1074, Emperor Shenzong of Song, established a Marine Office and a Goods Control Bureau north-west of Huating Zhen at the approximate location of Shanghai's old city, adjacent to a ditch or pu (浦) that ran north into Suzhou Creek and allowed for the loading and unloading of freight.

Later on, the area's proximity to Hangzhou, the capital of the Southern Song dynasty (1127-1279), proved beneficial. Along with its commercial activities, Qinglong Zhen became a military and naval base and by the early 12th century a Superintendent of Foreign Trade was established in the settlement to supervise trade and tax collections across five counties. As a result, the flourishing and prosperous town earned the sobriquet "Little Hangzhou."

According to official government sources, Shanghai first became a city in 1291 during the Yuan dynasty (1271–1368). At this time, five of Huating Zhen's villages were amalgamated to form a new Shanghai County (上海县; 上海縣; Shànghǎi Xiàn) on the site of the modern city centre. This new settlement had a population of about 300,000 with many engaged in the shipping trade.

History of Shanghai



Map of the Old City of Shanghai

History of Shanghai Ming Dynasty

By the early 15th century, Shanghai had become important enough for Ming dynasty engineers to begin dredging the Huangpu River (also known as Shen). In 1553, a city wall was built around the Old Town (Nanshi) as a defense against the depredations of the Wokou (Japanese pirates). Shanghai had its first contact with the Jesuits in 1603 when the Shanghai scholar-bureaucrat Xu Guangqi was baptized by Jesuit priest Matteo Ricci.[10] Xu later bequeathed some of his land in Shanghai, today's Xujiahui, meaning Xu family village, to the Catholic Church. By the end of the Ming dynasty in 1644, Shanghai had become a major cotton and textile center with a population that would soon reach 200,000.

Qing dynasty

During the late Qing dynasty, Shanghai's economy began to rival that of the traditionally larger market at Suzhou. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, exports of cotton, silk, and fertilizer reached as far as Polynesia and Persia.

In 1832, the East India Company explored Shanghai and the Yangzi River as a potential trading center for tea, silk, and opium, but were rebuffed by local officials. Chinese attempts to prohibit the opium trade into China led to the First Opium War (1839–1842) with the United Kingdom; the Treaty of Nanjing, which concluded the war with a British victory, opened up five treaty ports in China to British merchants, including Shanghai. Similar treaties were quickly signed with other Western nations, and French, American and German merchants joined their British counterparts in establishing a presence in Shanghai, residing in sovereign concessions where they were not subject to Chinese laws.

History of Shanghai

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The Taiping Rebellion was the largest of a number of widespread rebellions against the hugely unpopular Qing regime. In 1853, Shanghai was occupied by a triad offshoot of the rebels called the Small Swords Society. The fighting devastated much of the countryside but left the foreign settlements untouched.

Guards of Shanghai Old City



History of Shanghai



Gun transportation at Shanghai Jiangnan Arsenal (上海江南制造兵工厂), during the Self-Strengthening Movement

In 1854 a group of Western businessmen met and formed the Shanghai Municipal Council to organise road repairs, refuse clearance and tax collection across the concessions. In 1863 the American concession (land fronting the Huangpu River to the north-east of Suzhou Creek) officially joined the British Settlement (stretching from Yang-ching-pang Creek to Suzhou Creek) to become the Shanghai International Settlement. Its waterfront became the internationally famous Bund. The Shanghai French Concession, to the west of the old town, remained independent and the Chinese retained control over the original walled city and the area surrounding the foreign enclaves. By the late-1860s Shanghai's official governing body had been practically transferred from the individual concessions to the Shanghai Municipal Council.

History of Shanghai

Jardine's attempt to construct the Woosung "Road" railway in 1876 – China's first – proved initially successful until the death of a soldier on the tracks prompted the Chinese government to demand its nationalization. Upon the last payment in 1877, the local viceroy ordered the profitable railway dismantled and removed to Taiwan. The telegraph that had been strung along the line of the railway – also China's first – was, however, allowed to remain in operation.

By the mid-1880s, the Shanghai Municipal Council had a practical monopoly over a large part of the city's services. It bought up all the local gas-suppliers, electricity producers and water-companies. In the early 20th century, it took control over all non-private rickshaws and the Settlement tramways. It also regulated opium sales and prostitution until their banning in 1918 and 1920 respectively.

The Treaty of Shimonoseki, which ended the First Sino-Japanese War, saw Japan emerge as an additional foreign power in Shanghai. Japan built the first factories in Shanghai,[citation needed] which were soon followed by other foreign powers. The Chinese defeat also spurred reformers within the Qing government to modernize more quickly, leading to the reestablishment of the Songhu Railway and its expansion into the Shanghai–Nanjing Railway.

History of Shanghai

Republic of China

The 1911 Xinhai Revolution, spurred in part by actions against the native-owned railways around Shanghai, led to the establishment of the Republic of China. During that time, Shanghai became the focal point of many activities that would eventually shape modern China.

In 1936, Shanghai was one of the largest cities in the world with 3 million inhabitants. Of those, only 35,000-50,000 were of European origin, but these controlled half the city under the unequal treaties that provided extraterritoriality until 1943. Many White Russians fled to China after the 1917 Russian Revolution, trickling to Shanghai along the 1920s. The number of people with Russian origins was about 35,000 by the 1930s, well exceeding number of other people with European origin. These Shanghai Russians were sometimes poorly regarded by westerners, as their general poverty led them to take jobs considered unsuitable for Europeans, including prostitution. However, among Russian emigration was layered, also including several well-to-do members. Russian artists dominated Shanghai's artistic life almost single-handedly. Many Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany arrived in the 1930s.

The city was thus divided between its more European western half and the more traditionally Chinese eastern half. New inventions like electricity and trams were quickly introduced, and Westerners helped transform Shanghai into a metropolis. British and American businessmen made a great deal of money in trade and finance, and Germans used Shanghai as a base for investing in China. Shanghai accounted for half of the imports and exports of China. The western part of Shanghai grew to a size four times larger than the Chinese part had been in the early 20th century.

History of Shanghai

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European and American inhabitants of Shanghai called themselves the Shanghailanders. After problems during its initial few years, the Public Garden north of the Bund – China's first public park and today's Huangpu Park – was for decades reserved for the foreign nationals and forbidden to Chinese natives. The International Settlement was built in the British style with a large racetrack at the site of today's People's Square. A new class emerged, the compradors, which mixed with the local landlords to form a new class, a Chinese bourgeoisie. The compradors were indispensable mediators for the western companies. Many compradors were on the leading edge of the movement to modernize China. Shanghai was then the biggest financial city in East Asia.



History of Shanghai

Chinese society was divided into native place associations or provincial guilds. These guilds defended the interests of traders from shared hometowns. They had their own dress codes and sub-cultures. Chinese government was hardly organized, for the foreign governments controlled the economy. Instead, society was controlled by the native place associations. The Guangdong native place associations represented the skilled workers of Shanghai. These native place associations belonged to the top of Shanghainese society. The Ningbo and Jiangsu native place associations were the most numerous. They represented the common workers. Some came from the north of China. They were on the bottom rung of the social ladder. Many of them were forced to work as seasonal workers or even mobsters.

During the 1920s and 1930s Shanghai became known as "The Paris of the East, the New York of the West". Shanghai was made a special city in 1927, and a municipality in May 1930. The city's industrial and financial power increased, because the merchants were in control of the city, while the rest of China was divided among warlords.

Artistically, Shanghai became the hub for three new art forms: Chinese cinema, Chinese animation, and Chinese popular music. Other forms of entertainment included Lianhuanhua comic books. The architectural style at the time was modeled after British and American designs. Many of the grandest-scale buildings on The Bund – such as Shanghai Club, the Asia Building and the HSBC Building – were constructed or renovated at this time. The city created a distinct image that separated it from all other Chinese cities that had come before it.

History of Shanghai

The Shanghai massacre of 12 April 1927, the April 12 Purge or the April 12 Incident as it is commonly known in China, was the violent suppression of Chinese Communist Party (CCP) organizations and leftist elements in Shanghai by forces supporting General Chiang Kai-shek and conservative factions in the Kuomintang (Chinese Nationalist Party or KMT). Following the incident, conservative KMT elements carried out a full-scale purge of communists in all areas under their control, and violent suppression occurred in Guangzhou and Changsha. The purge led to an open split between left-wing and right-wing factions in the KMT, with Chiang Kai-shek establishing himself as the leader of the right-wing faction based in Nanjing, in opposition to the original left-wing KMT government based in Wuhan, which was led by Wang Jingwei. By 15 July 1927, the Wuhan regime had expelled the Communists in its ranks, effectively— ending the First United Front, a working alliance of both the KMT and CCP under the tutelage of Comintern agents. For the rest of 1927, the CCP would fight to regain power, beginning the Autumn Harvest Uprising. With the failure and the crushing of the Guangzhou Uprising at Guangzhou however, the power of the Communists was largely diminished, unable to launch another major urban offensive.



Communists being rounded up during the purges

History of Shanghai



The city was also the center of national and international opium smuggling during the 1920s. In the 1930s, "The Great World" amusement palace was a place where opium, prostitution and gambling came together under the leadership of gangster Huang Jinrong also known as "Pockmarked Huang". Huang was the highest-ranked Chinese detective in the French Concession Police (FCP) and employed Green Gang (Qing Bang) leader Du Yuesheng as his gambling and opium enforcer. The Green Gang became a major influence in the Shanghai International Settlement, with the Commissioner of the Shanghai Municipal Police reporting that corruption associated with the trade had affected a large proportion of his force. An extensive crackdown in 1925 simply displaced the focus of the trade to the neighboring French Concession.

History of Shanghai

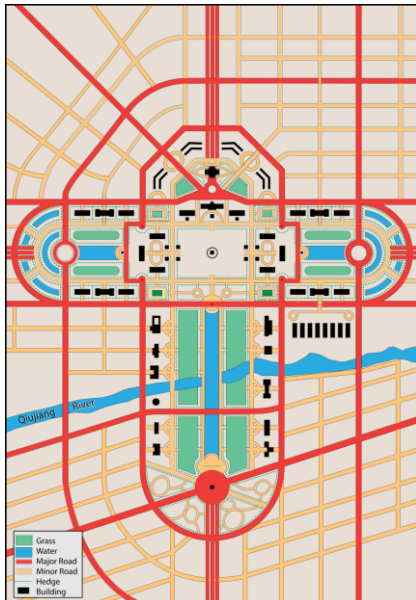
Meanwhile, traditional division of society by native place associations was falling apart. The new working classes were not prepared to listen to the bosses of the same native place associations during the 1910s. Resentment against the foreign presence in Shanghai rose among both the entrepreneurs and the workers of Shanghai. In 1919, protests by the May Fourth Movement against the Treaty of Versailles led to the rise of a new group of philosophers like Chen Duxiu and Hu Shih who challenged Chinese traditionalism with new ideologies. Books like *New Youth* disseminated the new school of thought, while crime and warlord banditry convinced many that the existing government was largely ineffective.[citation needed] In this atmosphere, the Chinese Communist Party was founded in Shanghai in 1921.

The Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek and the Shanghailanders entered into an informal alliance with the Green Gang, which acted against the Communists and organized labor unions. The nationalists had cooperated with gang leaders since the revolution. Although sporadic fighting between gangsters and communists had occurred previously, many communists were killed in a major surprise attack during the April 12 Incident in the Chinese-administered part of Shanghai. Suspected leftists were shot on sight, so that many – including Zhou Enlai – fled the city.

In the late 1920s and early '30s, large residential areas were built north of the foreign concessions. These residential areas were modern, with good roads and parking lots for automobiles. A new Chinese port was built, which could compete with the Shanghailanders' ports. Chiang Kai-shek continuously demanded large amounts of money from the financial world in Shanghai.

History of Shanghai

Supported by the progressive native place associations, Chiang Kai-shek's rule turned increasingly autocratic. The power of the gangsters rose in the early 1930s, especially the power of the Green Gang leader Du Yuesheng who started his own native place association. Chiang Kai-shek chose to cooperate with gangsters in order to maintain his grip on Chinese society. This meant that the gangsters remained middlemen during the rule of the nationalists, controlling society by frequently organizing strikes. Mobsters stormed the Shanghai Stock Exchange to gain control over it. No one interfered: the police because they had been dominated by the mobsters since 1919, the Shanghailanders because it was an internal Chinese affair, and the nationalists because they were trying to break the power of the entrepreneurs. The entrepreneurs were forced to make a deal after a second raid.



The Greater Shanghai Plan (simplified Chinese: 大上海计划; traditional Chinese: 大上海計劃; pinyin: Dà Shànghǎi Jìhuà) was a 1927 plan for the city of Shanghai, China, drawn up by the Nationalist Government of the Republic of China in Nanjing. It was presented at the 123rd meeting of the Shanghai City Government in July 1929 and as one of its provisions allocated 7,000 mu (~4.6 km²) in the modern day Jiangwan Subdistrict of Shanghai's Yangpu District[A] for the construction of a government headquarters and administration centre. Had it been completed, the government headquarters building would have stood close to the junction of today's Hengren Road (恒仁路) and the Qingyuan Ring Road (清源环路)

History of Shanghai

End of Old Shanghai (1937–1945)

World War II and the Japanese Occupation

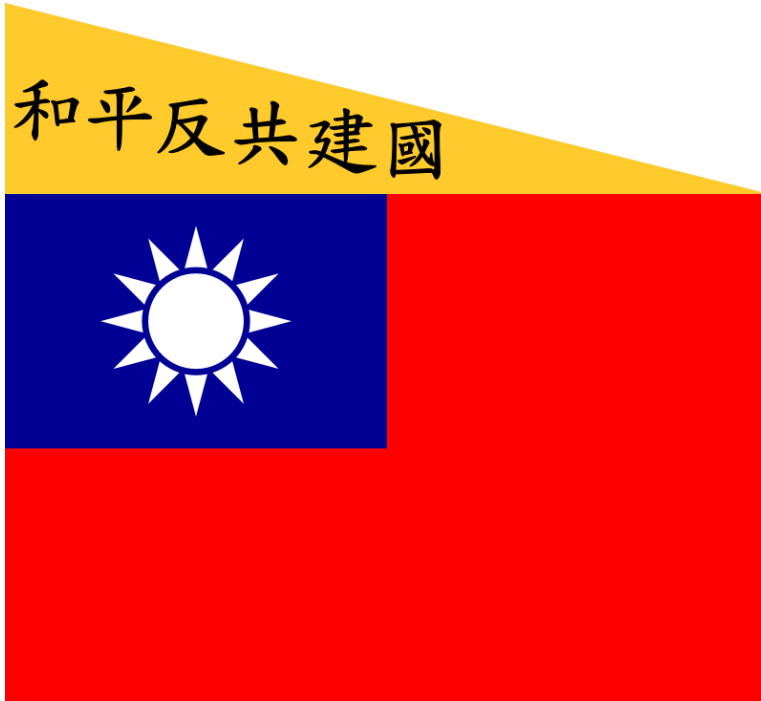
The Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service bombed Shanghai on January 28, 1932, nominally to crush Chinese student protests against the Japanese occupation of Manchuria. The Chinese fought back in what was known as the January 28 Incident. The two sides fought to a standstill and a ceasefire was brokered in May.

During the Second Sino-Japanese War, the Chinese-controlled parts of the city fell after the 1937 Battle of Shanghai (known in China as the Battle of Songhu). The foreign concessions entered what became known as the "Solitary Island" period. Many foreign institutions, such as banks, continued operating in this areas. With the beginning of the Pacific War, Japan occupied the foreign areas of Shanghai on 8 December 1941.

It seized most of the banks in these areas of Shanghai and declared that the Nationalist currency fabi had to be exchanged for bank notes of the Wang Jingwei regime.



History of Shanghai



The Wang Jingwei regime, officially the Reorganized National Government of the Republic of China (Chinese: 中華民國國民政府; pinyin: Zhōnghuá Mínguó Guómín Zhèngfǔ) was a puppet state of the Empire of Japan in eastern China. It existed alongside the Nationalist government of the Republic of China under Chiang Kai-shek, which was fighting Japan along with the other Allies of World War II. The country functioned as a dictatorship under Wang Jingwei, formerly a high-ranking official of the Nationalist Kuomintang (KMT). The region it administered was initially seized by Japan during the late 1930s at the beginning of the Second Sino-Japanese War.

Wang, a rival of Chiang Kai-shek and member of the pro-peace faction of the KMT, defected to the Japanese side and formed a collaborationist government in occupied Nanjing in 1940, as well as a concurrent collaborationist Kuomintang that ruled the new government. The new state claimed the entirety of China (outside the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo) during its existence, portraying itself as the legitimate inheritors of the Xinhai Revolution and Sun Yat-sen's legacy as opposed to Chiang's government in Chongqing, but effectively only Japanese-occupied territory was under its direct control. Its international recognition was limited to other members of the Anti-Comintern Pact, of which it was a signatory.

History of Shanghai

Tensions within the city led to a wave of assassinations against Chinese officials who worked with the Japanese authorities: during January and February, 1939, 16 pro-Japanese officials and businessmen were assassinated by Chinese resistance organizations.

Shanghai suffered less than many other cities during World War II, and the Japanese occupiers attempted to maintain many aspects of life as they had been before. The Shanghai Race Club reopened soon after the occupation and continued to host races throughout the war, even after most British and American Shanghai residents were interned. The races continued as late as August, 1945.

During World War II, the extraterritoriality of the foreign concessions provided a haven for visa-less European refugees. It was, along with Francoist Spain, the only location in the world unconditionally open to Jews at the time. However, under pressure from their ally Nazi Germany, the Japanese removed the Jews in late 1941 to what became known as the Shanghai ghetto, where hunger and infectious diseases such as dysentery became rife.

The foreign population rose from 35,000 in 1936 to 150,000 in 1942 (Jewish immigration was 20000-25000 from 1933 to 1941). The Japanese were still harsher on belligerent nationals: Britons, Americans and the Dutch. These slowly lost their privileges and had to wear letters – B, A, or N – when walking in public places; their villas were turned into brothels and gambling houses.

History of Shanghai

End of the Foreign Concessions

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Japanese ended all foreign concessions in Shanghai except for the French. This state of affairs was conceded by an Anglo-Chinese Friendship Treaty in 1943.[clarification needed] The French themselves ceded their privileges in 1946 following the end of World War II.

Tightened Communist rule (1949–1980s)

Towards the end of the Chinese Civil War on May 27, 1949, Shanghai came under Communist control. Although the Republic of China Army vowed to make the city "China's Stalingrad" and the local population supported the Kuomintang, it surrendered to Chen Yi's People's Liberation Army forces with minimal resistance.

One of the first actions taken in the Chinese Communist Revolution was to kill people considered counter-revolutionaries. Places such as the Canidrome were transformed from elegant ballrooms to mass execution facilities. This included the mass arrest of thousands of vagrants, criminals, and rickshaw drivers beginning in December 1949, alongside a broader crackdown on gambling and prostitution. This reality has been largely censored, despite numerous western texts describing the hostile takeover following the arrival of the People's Liberation Army. Most foreign firms moved their offices from Shanghai to Hong Kong, specifically North Point, whose Eastern District became known as "Little Shanghai" Although the Communists initially tried to allow the city relative autonomy, its economy declined due to a Taiwanese blockade and Communist restrictions on foreign trade.

History of Shanghai



Shanghai was, along with Beijing, the only former ROC municipality not merged into neighboring provinces over the next decade. Shanghai then underwent a series of changes in the boundaries of its subdivisions. During the 1950s and 1960s, Shanghai became an industrial center and center for revolutionary leftism. During the mid-1980s, Guangdong province paid nearly no taxes to the central government and thus was perceived as fiscally expendable.

History of Shanghai

Economic and cultural rebound (1990s–Present)

Although political power in Shanghai has traditionally been seen as a stepping stone to higher positions within the PRC central government,[citation needed] the city's modern transformation really did not begin until the third generation General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Jiang Zemin came to power in 1989. Along with his premier Zhu Rongji, Jiang represented the politically right-of-center "Shanghai clique", and began reducing the tax burden on Shanghai. Encouraging both foreign and domestic investment, he sought to promote the city – particularly the Lujiazui area of Pudong – as the economic hub of East Asia and gateway to the Chinese interior. Since that time, Shanghai has led China's overall development and experienced continuous economic growth of between 9–15% annually – arguably at the expense of Hong Kong. Shanghai is China's largest and greatest commercial and industrial city. With 0.1% of the land area of the country, it supplies over 12% of the municipal revenue and handles more than a quarter of total trade passing through China's ports. Its year 2010 population, according to China's latest census, was 23.02 million and represented an increase of 6.61 million from the 2000 census. The average size of a family in Shanghai declined to fewer than three people during the 1990s, and it is clear that most of Shanghai's population growth is driven by migration rather than natural factors based on high birth and fertility rates. Shanghai has for many years had the lowest birth rate in China, a rate lower than large American cities such as New York.

The rapid growth in population, factories and motor vehicles has generated environmental issues. Experts say the chief problems involve air and water pollution and the accumulation of solid wastes.

History of Shanghai Time Line

1842

19 June: Shanghai taken by British forces.

Shanghai opens to foreigners per Treaty of Nanking.

1843 Captain George Balfour appointed British consul.

1845

David Sassoon & Sons in business.

British settlement established on outskirts of Old City.

1846 - Richards' Hotel and Restaurant in business.

1849 - French Concession granted.

1850

North-China Herald newspaper begins publication.

Collège Saint Ignace founded.

1851 - Jardine, Matheson & Co. branch built.

1853

Small Swords Society occupies Old City.

April: Shanghai Volunteer Corps organized.

1854

Imperial Maritime Custom Offices installed.

Shanghai Municipal Council formed by westerners.

1855 - Shanghai Race Club founded.

1856 - Wills' Bridge constructed.

1857 - Royal Asiatic Society North-China Branch established.

1859 - Astor House Hotel in business.

1860

August: Taiping rebels unsuccessfully attempt to take city.

New Northern Gate built into city wall.

1861

Battle of Shanghai (1861).

Correspondent's Club formed by British residents.

1862

American settlement established.

Saint Joseph's Church consecrated.

1863 - Hongkou becomes part of American Concession.

1865

Kiangnan Arsenal and Long Men College established.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation branch opens.

British Supreme Court for China established.

Gas lighting introduced.

1866 - Butterfield & Swire in business.

1868 - Musee de Zikawei founded.

1869 - Holy Trinity Church consecrated; designed by George Gilbert Scott.

History of Shanghai Time Line

1871 - August: Typhoon.

1872 - Shen Bao newspaper begins publication.

1874

Rickshaws introduced.

Natural history museum established by Royal Asiatic Society

North-China Branch.

1876 - Woosung Railway begins operating.

1881 - Population: 302,767

1882

Jade Buddha Temple founded.

Electricity introduced.

1884 - Dianshizhai-huabao (magazine) begins publication.

1889 - Ostasiatischer Lloyd newspaper begins publication.

1895 - Population: 411,753.

1896 - Nanyang Public School and Consulate-General of Russia in Shanghai established.

1897 - 22 June: British nationals conduct jubilee events.

1898

Songhu Railway begins operating.

Bubbling Well cemetery established.

1900s

1901 - Haroon & Company in business.

1905 - Kiangnan Shipyard and Fudan College established.

1907 - Waibaidu Bridge constructed.

1908

Nanjing-Shanghai Railway, Shanghai South railway station, Palace Hotel, and New Stage built.

Electric tram begins operating.

Art exhibit held in Shanghai Mutual Telephone Company building.

Hongkou cinema opens.

1909

Shanghai railway station and Shanghai Industrial College established.

Shanghai–Hangzhou Railway begins operating.

New gates built into city wall.

1910

St. Ignatius Cathedral and Shanghai Club Building constructed.

Shanghai Oil Painting Institute, and Eastern City Women's Art School founded.

1912 - Old City walls dismantled.

1913 - Shanghai Art School, Women's Art and Embroidery Institute,[10] and Xinmin Theater Research Society founded.

1914 - Trolleybus begins operating along Fokein Road.

1916 - Asia Building and Union Building constructed on The Bund.

1917

Millard's Review of the Far East begins publication.

Sincere Department Store branch in business.

History of Shanghai Time Line

1920 - Shanghai Mint established.

1921

July: Chinese Communist Party founded during meeting in Xintiandi.

Mingxing Film Company founded.

1923

Hongqiao Airport in operation.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation building constructed.

1924 - General Post Office Building and North China Daily News Building constructed.

1925

30 May: Protest quashed; May Thirtieth Movement launched.

Shanghai East Library opens.

Tianyi Film Company in business.

Institute of Chartered Accountants organized.

1927

Shanghai Commune of 1927 active.

12 April: Shanghai massacre of 1927.

7 July: Huang Fu becomes mayor.

Shanghai Conservatory of Music founded.

Customs House, Zhapu Road Bridge, and Ohel Moishe Synagogue built.

City becomes a special municipality.

1928 - Fahua District becomes part of city.

1929

Chang Ch'ün becomes mayor.

Shanghai Stock Exchange formed.

Xinmin Po and Shanghai Evening Post & Mercury newspapers begin publication.

Sassoon House built.

1930s

1930 - Nanking Theatre founded.

1932

January 28 Incident

January: Wu Tiecheng becomes mayor.

Grand Theatre rebuilt.

1933 - Paramount Ballroom opens.

1934 - Shanghai Joint Savings Society Building constructed.

1935

EWO Brewery Ltd. in business.

Sheshan Basilica and Broadway Mansions built.

1937

April: Yu Hung-Chun becomes mayor.

13 August - 26 November: Battle of Shanghai; Japanese occupation begins.

26 October - 1 November: Defense of Sihang Warehouse.

Bank of China Building constructed.

History of Shanghai Time Line

1938 - Wen Hui Bao newspaper begins publication.

1939 - Shanghai Jewish Chronicle begins publication.

1940s

1940 - November: Chen Gongbo becomes mayor.

1943 - British and American concessions end.[citation needed]

1944 - December: Zhou Fohai becomes mayor.

1945

Japanese occupation ends.

August: K. C. Wu becomes mayor.

City divided into 30 administrative districts.

Shanghai Theatre Academy established.

1946 - French concession ends.

1947 – Constitution of the Republic of China passes.

1949

Rao Shushi becomes Shanghai Party Committee Secretary.

May: Chen Yi becomes mayor.

May–June: Shanghai Campaign.

Jiefang Daily newspaper begins publication.

Shanghai Film Studio founded.

October: Proclamation of the People's Republic of China.

Shanghai residents find refuge on the island of Taiwan with some fleeing to Hong Kong.

1950

Chen Yi becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Shanghai Women's Federation founded

1951 - Shanghai Shenhua Football Club formed.

1952 - Shanghai Museum, Shanghai Banking School, and Shanghai Chinese Orchestra founded.

1953 - Population: 6,204,417.

1954

Ke Qingshi becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Shanghai Zoo and Shanghai Teachers Training College established.

Jing'an Park developed.

1955

Shanghai Exhibition Centre completed

Hongkou Stadium opens.

Shanghai Internal Combustion Engine Components Company in business.

1956 - Shanghai Natural History Museum established.

1958

Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences founded.

Ke Qingshi becomes mayor.

Baoshan, Fengxian, Jiadang, Jinshan, Qingpu, Songjiang districts and Chongming County become part of city.

1959 - Drunken Bai Garden opens.

History of Shanghai Time Line

1960 - Shanghai Institute of Foreign Languages established.

1961 - Yu Garden opens.

1964 - Population: 10,816,500.

1965

Chen Pixian becomes CPC Party chief.

Cao Diqu becomes mayor.

Cucumber Lane renovated.

1966 - Cultural Revolution begins.

1967

Shanghai People's Commune active.

Zhang Chunqiao becomes mayor.

1970s

1970

One Strike-Three Anti Campaign.

Population: 10,820,000.

1971 - Zhang Chunqiao becomes Party Committee Secretary.

1972 - Richard Nixon visits city.

1974 - Shanghai Botanical Garden established.

1976 - Su Zhenhua becomes Party Committee Secretary.

1978 - Shanghai Translation Publishing House founded.

1979

Peng Chong becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Sister city relationship established with San Francisco, USA.

1980

Shanghai Bar Association founded

Chen Guodong becomes Party Committee Secretary.

1981 - Wang Daohan becomes mayor.

1982 - Population: 6,292,960 city; 11,859,700 (urban agglomeration)

1983 - Shanghai History & Cultural Relics Showroom opens.

1984 - Shanghai University of Political Science and Law founded.

1985

Rui Xingwen becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Jiang Zemin becomes mayor.

Shanghai Daoist Association established

Wenhui Book Review begins publication.

1987 - Jiang Zemin becomes Party Committee Secretary.

1988

Zhu Rongji becomes mayor.

Jin Jiang Tower built.

1989 Protests.

Zhu Rongji becomes Party Committee Secretary.

1990 - Population: 13,341,900.

1991

Nanpu Bridge and Yangpu Bridge open.

Wu Bangguo becomes Party Committee Secretary.



H I S T O R Y of Shanghai

History of Shanghai Time Line

Huang Ju becomes mayor.

The Chinese Republic on Taiwan unofficially abandoned the claims to Shanghai after amending the constitution.

1992 - Shanghai Star newspaper begins publication.

1993

Pudong Special Economic Zone established.

Shanghai Metro begins operation.

Shanghai International Film Festival begins.

1994

Huang Ju becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Oriental Pearl Tower constructed in Lujiazui.

Australian Chamber of Commerce Shanghai established.

1995

Xu Kuangdi becomes mayor.

Dajing Ge Pavilion museum opens

1996

Shanghai Library building opens.

Shanghai Biennale art exhibit begins.

Yan'an Elevated Road and King Tower built.

Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai established.

1997 - Xupu Bridge opens.

1998

Shanghai Grand Theatre opens.

Jin Mao Tower, Shanghai Sen Mao International Building, Shanghai Futures Building, and Lippo Plaza built.

1999

Shanghai Pudong International Airport begins operating.

Shanghai Century Publishing Group established.

Shanghai Daily newspaper begins publication.

Shanghai public transport card launched.

2000

International Ocean Shipping Building, World Finance Tower, and Bank of China Tower constructed.

Fireworks Festival begins.

Population: 16,407,700.

2001

Chen Liangyu becomes mayor.

Plaza 66 and Pudong International Information Port built.

Shanghai Film Group Corporation in business.

Benelux Business Association established.

2002

Chen Liangyu becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Shanghai Ocean Aquarium and Super Brand Mall open.

Shanghai Fashion Week begins.

Shanghai Golden Eagles baseball team formed.

History of Shanghai Time Line

2003

Han Zheng becomes mayor.

Lupu Bridge opens.

Tomorrow Square, Shanghai Dong Hai Plaza, Aurora Plaza, and Raffles Square built.

Nanhui New City construction begins.

2004

Shanghai Maglev Train begins operating.

Shanghai Railway Museum and Shanghai International Circuit open.

Chinese Grand Prix begins.

2005

Shanghai Institute of Visual Art and Shanghai City Symphonic Orchestra established.

Donghai Bridge, Shimao International Plaza, Grand Gateway Shanghai, Longemont Shanghai, Citigroup Tower, and Bank of Shanghai Headquarters built.

Shanghai Oriental Art Center and Qi Zhong Stadium inaugurated.

2006

Han Zheng becomes Party Committee Secretary.

Shanghai pension scandal.

Island6 Art Center opens.

Chenghuang Miao (temple) restored.

PLA Unit 61398 active

2007

Xi Jinping becomes Party Committee Secretary, succeeded by Yu Zhengsheng.

Oasis Skyway Garden Hotel built.

2008 - Shanghai World Financial Center, One Lujiazui, and Zhongrong Jasper Tower built.

2009

Shanghai Pride begins.

Shanghai Yangtze River Tunnel and Bridge and Happy Valley (amusement park) open.

Shanghai Masters tennis tournament held.

2010s

2010

Expo 2010 Shanghai China (world expo) held.

Shanghai Arena opens.

Minpu Bridge and Shanghai Wheelock Square built.

15 November: Fire on Jiaozhou Road, Jing'an District.

Population: 23,019,148.

2011

Beijing–Shanghai High-Speed Railway begins operating.

Huamin King Tower built.

History of Shanghai Time Line

2012

November: Han Zheng becomes Party Committee Secretary.

December: Yang Xiong becomes mayor.

Power Station of Art opens.

Turkish Chamber of Commerce established.

2014

31 December: 2014 Shanghai stampede

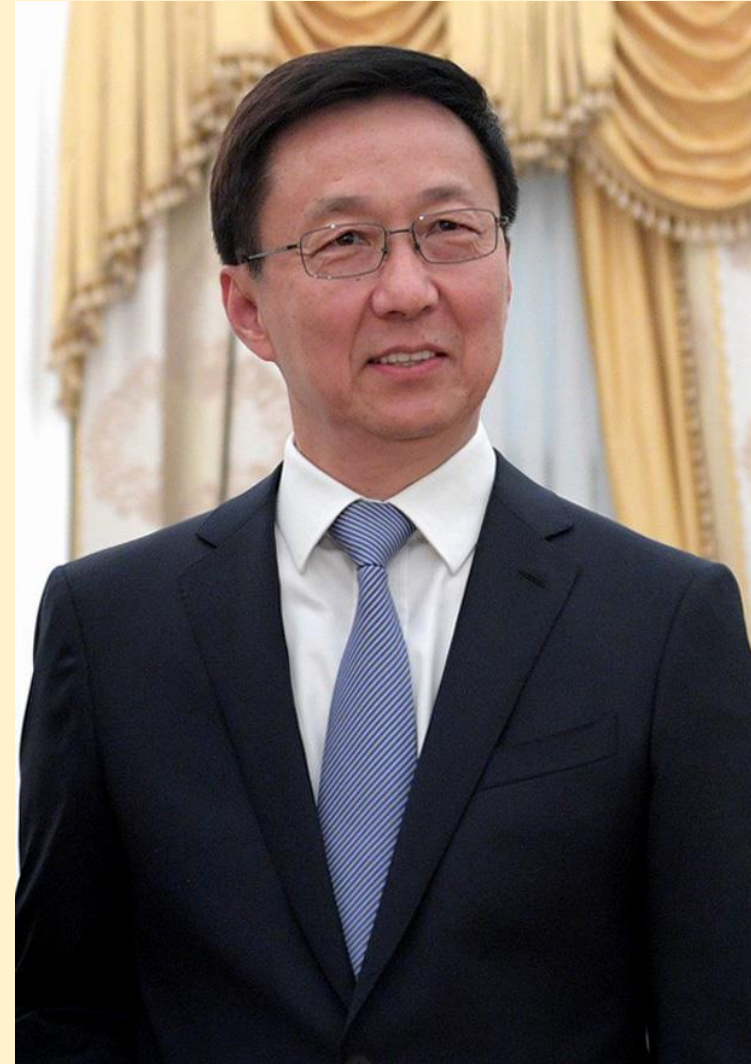
2016

June 16: Shanghai Disneyland Park opened.

2017

26 April : Shanghai Tower officially opened its sightseeing deck to the public.

10 June: Protest against changes to housing regulations by the municipal authorities on Nanjing Road



Han Zheng